

June 9, 2011

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE**

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 7:05 p.m., immediately following a Special Session of Council.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Gerry Buott	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the agenda for June 9, 2011 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- delete Item #9, Debert Land Transfer to CoRDA, and Item #10, Policy Acquisition of Private Roads in Rural Areas
- add to Item #11, Closed Session: Contract Negotiations
- add Item #8b: Joint County/Town Flood Committee (on table)
- add Item #8c: Tidal Bore Viewing Location
- add Item #8d: Letter from Department of Environment (for information), Closed Session under Item #11 (for action)
- add Item #11b: Salmon River Parade
- add Item #11c: Fracking
- add Item 11d: TIR Quarterly Meeting
- add to Item #11, Closed Session: Negotiations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the minutes of the meeting held on May 17, 2011 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Business Arising from Minutes**

In response to an inquiry from Councillor White regarding the Debert land transfer, staff advised that they are hopeful that a meeting with CoRDA will take place next week.

**Presentations**

There were no public presentations received for this evening's meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS****Tax Exemption By-Law - Amendment to Property List**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the addition of the Upper Stewiacke Fire Department to the Tax Exemption Property List, for fiscal year 2011-12 and beyond, for a property at Highway 289, Upper Stewiacke.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the following properties be removed from the Tax Exemption Property List:

- Bell Memorial Park, 1579 Highway 246, New Annan, Property #00273635;
- West New Annan Community Hall, 1137 Warwick Mountain Road, Property #04874935;
- Chisholm Trail Snowmobile Club, New Brittain Road, Five Islands, Property #06404421; and,
- Dominion Chair (1992) Ltd, land leased to Heritage Society, Property #07348827.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Mountain Golf and Country Club**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That a letter be sent to the Mountain Golf and Country Club reconfirming that, under the Municipal Government Act, Council does not have authority to adjust property tax bills for prior years, and suggest that the Club explore other legal avenues to determine appeal options.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That the Property Valuation Services Corporation be invited to make a presentation to Council on the property assessment/appeal process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Five-Year Capital  
Budget**

Mr. Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services, briefed Council on the 2011-12 five-year capital budget plan, a copy of which was circulated on table.

Mr. Dan McDougall, CAO, indicated that staff will be back in the fall with a priority list for Council to consider. He suggested that Council may wish to look at developing a growth strategy for prioritizing such projects as Granville Drive, Bible Hill Master Plan and Debert Infrastructure, all of which will require wastewater systems.

**Joint County/Town  
Flood Committee**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee directs staff to develop a report to identify options on collaboration between the Flood Advisory Committees of the Town of Truro and the Municipality of Colchester, to address flood remediation and related matters.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Tidal Bore Viewing  
Location**

Mayor Taylor made reference to an email on table from the Truro and District Chamber of Commerce and a meeting held on June 7<sup>th</sup> concerning the condition of the property that contains the Palliser Restaurant. Along with the property owner, the meeting had representatives from CoRDA, the Town of Truro, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Central Nova Tourist Association. As the owner currently has the property for sale, the restaurant and motel are closed and the viewing area for the tidal bore is not being maintained with respect to grass cutting and garbage removal.

Mayor Taylor indicated that he would like to see someone take the lead on having the viewing location cleaned up and maintained for the summer season so that tourists coming to the area can still get to see and enjoy the tidal bore.

During Council’s discussion on this matter, it was also recommended that another viewing location for the tidal bore could be at MacLellan Corner.

Moved by Councillor Taggart

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Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of Colchester be authorized to work in cooperation with the Truro and District Chamber of Commerce and the Central Nova Tourist Association to maintain the tidal bore viewing location on the Palliser Restaurant property, for the 2011 tourist season only, which would include grass mowing, lighting for the area and liability insurance.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors MacKenzie and McKenna opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff be directed to look into developing a separate tidal bore viewing area at MacLellan Corner.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Notice of Appeal  
Refusal -  
Department of  
Environment**

Mr. McDougall made reference to a letter on table from the Department of Environment dated June 7, 2011. The letter serves as notification that the Municipality’s appeal of Environment’s decision to reject an application for a six-month permit for municipal biosolids to be stored and subsequently used as daily cover at the Kemptown Balefill Facility has also been rejected.

Mr. McDougall explained that the letter raises two issues that Council needs to consider; the first being whether or not to challenge the appeal which will be discussed in closed session later this evening. The second relates to Environment’s policy upon which their rejection of the application and appeal was based, which precludes the use of biosolids as a daily cover in a landfill site.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That a letter be sent to the Premier and the Minister of Environment requesting a meeting be arranged to discuss changes to the existing policies and procedures that would allow more flexibility on the use of biosolids as daily cover in landfill sites.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Salmon River  
Parade**

Councillor Edwards reported that the parade celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Salmon River Fire Brigade is scheduled for Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**Fracking**

Councillor Taggart reported that fracking is becoming an issue, particularly on the North Shore, and he has been told that fracking has not hurt wells or the water table. To obtain more information on this matter, Council agreed that an invitation be extended to the Department of Energy to make a presentation on hydraulic fracturing, including information on any applications received by the Province for explorations.

**TIR Quarterly  
Meeting**

Mayor Taylor invited Councillors to advise him of any issues they would like raised at the next quarterly meeting with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Several items were noted by staff to include on the meeting agenda.

**Closed Session**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:40 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:50 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Property Appraisal -  
Kemtown**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee gives authority to the CAO to accept compensation top-up offers for property located at 1320 Riversdale Road, Kemtown.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:51 p.m.”

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Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary